

## ANNEX 5

**Narrative Progress Report****Report period** Jan- June 2007**Contract Ref. No.** 01/Core/33/ISODEC**Organisation** ISODEC**Contact Tel. No.** 021 254918/921, 0244 407949**Report Date** September 2007**Report Prepared by  
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**1. National pro-poor policies**

**What do you think were the most important changes in pro-poor government policies in the last six months? What were the main causes? What contribution did your organisation make to any of these changes?**

This report outlines the achievements for the period January to June 2007 in the four thematic areas of Organisational Development, Economic Justice, Essential Services and Policy Support.

**1.1 Significant Economic and Political Development**

The energy crisis and the outlook for the future of the economy, the Ghana at 50 celebrations, Re-denomination, the drug menace, the turbulent labour scene and the African Union (AU) Summit in Accra are among the major and urgent issues that have had significant impact on the socio-political landscape over the period this report covered. The Ghana Health Insurance Scheme, School Feeding programme and Capitation grant still feature as key pro poor policies of the government.

- **Energy crisis:** Since November 2006, Ghana has been going through severe power crisis due mainly to the low water level in the Akosombo dam. The most affected is industry. The major reason government provides for the current power supply difficulty had been the inability of the Government to secure enough resources to execute its power supply expansion plans over the years.

The West African Gas Pipeline project is being pursued in earnest to provide a long term and secure fuel supply for emerging Independent Power Producers. The Kpone and Bui dams are all measures being taken to provide both short and long term energy needs of the country. In the meantime, immediate measures being undertaken by Government to save the situation at present include an increase in the energy import from Cote d'Ivoire and the installation of generating systems. Power is being rationed and many people and organisations are turning to smaller generator units for their electricity requirements. This comes at a much higher unit cost. Despite the assurances given by the government some people have accused it of the lack of foresight.

- **Ghana At 50:** Ghana was fifty years as an independent nation on the 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2007. The government outlined an elaborate whole year celebration. Although there is justification for the celebration, especially the strides made in transforming its turbulent political past to a modern stable and peaceful democracy in the sub-region. Sections of the public including leading political parties have criticised the government for spending over \$20 million on the celebrations citing, lack of basic essential

services such as portable water, education and health, roads and electricity. Others have centred on transparency and the effective utilisation of the money. They raised questions about the expenditure items which included \$4.9 million for the rehabilitation of the Independence Square and the Liberation Circle, otherwise known as the Ridge Roundabout. \$5.9 million to purchase vehicles for the anniversary celebrations, made up of 50 BMWs, 50 Benz, 50 Chryslers, 50 Peugeot saloon cars, 30 Jaguars and 25 buses. The government also indicated that \$7.8 million was being spent on infrastructure rehabilitation but failed to give specifics on what structures were being renovated. The final \$1.4 million was being spent on administration, publicity and other activities of the Ghana at 50 Secretariat.

- **Re-denomination:** The Bank of Ghana in January 2007 announced a re-denomination exercise to be effective 1, July 2007. The exercise will knock off four-zeros from the current denomination. ₵10,000 will be equivalent to GH₵1. The government has expressed optimism about the smooth and successful implementation of the country's currency re-denomination.

### *Other significant Developments*

The major developments that impacted negatively on the extractive sector during the implementation period, was the increasing militarization of mining communities by state security apparatus in collaboration with the mining companies. This particular development has increased tension and mistrust between the companies and the communities in which they operate, with some community members dismissing the EITI initiative as not addressing the core of the concerns they have with regard to the activities of mining companies.

Most of the members of PWYP-Ghana also belong to the National Coalition on Mining (NCOM), which seeks to carry forward those human right concerns not captured in the EITI framework. NCOM currently has a petition before the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) in respect of some shooting incidents in the Ashanti and Western regional mining enclaves.

### *Drought in Northern Ghana*

The period under review has experienced a lot of climate change that has affected farming and a likely looming hunger period. The rains delayed followed by a long period of drought and all crops weathered so there was a second cropping with the hope that the rains would extend for the crops to mature.

This section of the report provides detailed information on achievement of the outcomes for first half of 2007. It also provides highlights on activities conducted.

## **1.0 Organisational development**

### **Outcome 1.**

In each of the focal countries, the capacity of Youth, Women's groups and associations, Faith-based organisations and local authorities would be enhanced to influence and demand economic justice, especially through the framework of the economic, social and cultural rights framework of the United Nations;

Partners have been identified for all the four other countries of Senegal, Niger, Mali and Sierra Leone in addition to the two existing partners in Burkina Faso and Nigeria. The partners in the sub-region that ISODEC will jointly implement this RBA 3 programme with are: Alternatives – Niger, CAD – Mali, CPPC – Nigeria, ORCADE – Burkina Faso, NMJD – Sierra Leone and ASPE - in Senegal.

## 2.0 Essential Services

### Outcome 2:

A campaign is catalysed to keep essential services (public goods) out of the discipline of GATs and EPAs and the principal role of the state in providing these goods is restored in, at least, the focal countries in West Africa.

### 2.1 Sustain campaign on right to education

Combining our role as facilitator of the national education campaign, the Northern Network for Education Development (NNED) and our own role as lead-research co-ordinator we accomplished the following to date on education and in preparation towards a grand coalition on essential services: For enhancing evidence-based advocacy a number of research pieces have either been completed or are underway:

- *An extract/tracking of education sector budget allocations study has been completed*
- *A User-fee study to establish actual costs of education and how much parents pay as against what government pays for basic education*
- *Tracking of capitation grants in twenty districts throughout Ghana to establish its efficiency and effectiveness;*
- *Teacher deployment study to establish relationship between teacher numbers and quality and the quality of basic education;*
- *Monitoring of school feeding programme for impacts and effectiveness in improving enrolment and retention in basic schools.*

Two main events were also undertaken as part of advocacy for improving basic education; 1) A study was conducted in the central region (Gomoa district) to establish the worsening trends in education and also to show the level and intensity of disparities between rural and urban quality of education and 2) we facilitated the participation of CSOs in the national education sector review. A number of preparatory meetings were held to strengthen CSOs positions.

**2007 Education Sector Review:** This year's Education Sector Annual Review Meeting took place at the Kofi Annan International Conference Centre from the 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2006. It was attended by the Ministers of Education and Finance, other government officials, donors and representatives of civil society. ISODEC led the civil society participation in the review and presented the civil input into the review.

### Ambassador Girl Sponsorship Programme (AGSP)

The evaluation report on the 2006 GCEP mentioned that the project has contributed to a lot of positive things, ranging from high community awareness on the rights to education, increased in enrolment, and retention and the DA readiness to continue to invest into girls education. Girls are also very proactive and strive for high visions. Government structures have recognize the amerce role of Civil Society in education development and so invite CS representatives across the country to join in a national education review meeting.

As a result of the restructuring exercise of ISODEC that stretched from late February to May and the early weeks of June, not much direct activity was carried out as scheduled on the AGSP work plan for the period. Nonetheless, crucial events in the education sector that are of great importance to the achievement of the objectives of the AGSP project as well as the objectives of Ghana's blueprint on human resource development, witnessed the active participation of staff, including the new officer for the Bolga office.

### Work plan

- Monitoring visits to schools

- Organize Quizzes and debates
- Role model to give talks
- Distribution of food rations

Except the distribution of food rations, which has successfully been completed with each of the 820 AGSP beneficiaries receiving a 100kg maxi bag of either millet or maize, the rest of the above planned activities were somewhat affected by the restructuring exercise and are yet to be completed.

Northern Ghana is current experiencing a severe draught and this has seriously affected availability of other food items such as vegetables that ordinarily would have assisted families. As a result, though the distribution of the rations delayed, it came at a very opportune time. Beneficiaries and their parents were thus excited and thankful to AGSP for giving them the food at such a life saving moment, judging that theirs are families hardest hit by any shortage. It is worth noting that before any distribution was made, discussions were held with parents, scholars and other key personalities present, on this year's Global Action Week on Education theme, "Education as a Human Right" and how both parents and AGSP are trying to make this possible.

**School Feeding Programme:** A monitoring of the programme is under way. The object is to ensure that government honours its plans in the proposal and to find out how far the objectives of enrolment retention and good health are being achieved. The end product will be disseminated widely to ensure that stakeholders involved pick the suggestions for improvement of the project.

## **2.2 Launch right to health**

The ISODEC right to health programme is being executed through the Right to ART Campaign and the Reproductive Health Rights Project work which is supported under the ARHR and Simavi projects. The Alliance has been very active last year but SIMVI started in June 2007 with six partners from six districts in the Northern and Upper East Regions of Ghana. The main goal of the project is to collaborate with the Ghana Health Service, other stakeholders and communities to improve sexual and reproductive health of disadvantaged groups through knowledge sharing, service delivery and advocacy.

A high awareness level has been created among target groups on health as a right and communities now can make demands of people in authority and wives having a say in family decisions and how many children they want to have. The general public often show interest and make meaningful contributions during phone-in discussions

**SIMAVI inception meeting** was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2007. The object was for ISODEC and partners to share a common understanding of the project, showcase the project to the media and other stakeholders partners and seek their support and suggestions to create synergy while avoiding duplication. The six partners are PRIDE- Bongo District, BILFACU-Bunkpurugu Yunyon Distreict, and ZOVFA -Bawku Municipality, YARO -Tamale Municipality, EPCC -Saboba / Chereponi District and CFRHP West Mamprusi District. Key collaborators like Ghana Health Service, the National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS from the Northern Region and the National Population Council made input in the project as well as high-lightening on Ghana Health Policies and their challenges they face. They particularly mentioned that the issue of TBAs was still relevant though the ministry of health does not consider it as supervised delivery. The media gave wide publicity to the event. It received coverage in the National Radio, the three local FM stations and the Daily Graphic, a national paper as well as our own paper Public Agenda. The Senior Project Officer of Simavi from Netherlands and ISODEC director of programmes were at the meeting.

**Community Sensitization / Durbars:** All implementing LNGOs partners organized community durbars during the period under review, to inform community members and elders about the project and to solicit their support for the successful implementation of project activities. The durbars were also used as platforms to discuss issues of reproductive health. Some issues discussed included the following:

Violence against women

Harmful / outmoded traditional practices such as FGM.

A meeting for heads of ten (10) Junior Secondary Schools was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2007 to sensitize the head teachers on the Simavi project. The heads were taken through:

The objectives of the project

Expectations and the roles of the heads

Formation Of CCT For HIV/AIDS Anti-Retroviral Drug Campaign: One of the project aims is to draw the attention of the public, policy makers and service providers to appreciate the plight of People Living With HIV /AIDS (PLWHAS) by campaigning for easy access to ART , without any economic or geographical hindrance. In order to realize this objective, a campaign coordinating team has been formed to coordinate all activities of the project regarding the campaign. During the period under review the CCT developed guidelines and a work plan for the campaign.

ARHRs Partners Peer Review Meeting: The Peer Review meeting brought together all key representatives of the Alliance members to agree on a number of benchmarks towards ensuring that programmes being implemented in the three zones were coherent with the ARHP objective. To ensure that outstanding activities for ZNGOs and partners were completed, share experiences, challenges and make suggestions to enrich each other's work. This meeting was held in March 2007.

Validation Workshops: To complete the health institutional audit that began in the last quarter of 2006, validation workshops were organized in each of the 11 districts. The main aim was to bring stakeholders and a sample of respondents to verify the findings of the audit. Along side, advocacy issues - especially the hidden power relations that hinder women's reproductive rights were identified and discussed; those that were more complex were added to work plans for appropriate strategies. The stakeholders and respondents included staff of District Assemblies, District Health Management Teams, Mutual Health Insurance Secretariats, district, sub-district health and community centres and community members. Even though all 12 partners did the validation exercises, ISODEC could join only four partners in the East Gonja, Saboba, Zabzugu/Tatale and Bawku districts for the workshops.

Composite Report On Institutional Audit: The institutional audit reports on the 11 districts have been compiled into a composite report. This includes an analysis of sexual reproductive health data collected at the household level. The final report has been submitted to the Alliance Secretariat and soft copies will be given to LNGO partners. Each is to tease out advocacy issues that need follow-up at the community, district, regional and national levels. The issues will then be included in work plans for action. The main challenge in the exercise however was the varying levels of data quality and quantity.

Secondment of Community Health Nurses (CHNs): As at the end of last year 6 LNGO partners had obtained CHNs on Secondment. Currently, all twelve LNGOs have attained this status with the exception of the new LNGO partner (Navrongo Women's Health and Development -). In the Bunkpurugu Yonyo district for example the attached CHN provided anti-natal and post-natal care to expectant mothers and nursing mothers on a monthly basis.

Collaborations with GHS: During the period under review a one day collaborative\networking meeting was held with GHS staff in the Bunkpurugu Yonyon district. This was organized by BILFACU. Issues that were discussed included

Health staff\nurses code of ethics

Patients' (women\children) rights

Role of BILFACU in the ARHP as a complement to GHS mandate.

The Service was also presented with a copy of the district – level health inventory report. In Tamale ISODEC joined GHS in reviewing the annual plans and activities. ISODEC also made a presentation on our health project and high lighted areas of needed collaboration with the Service. ISODEC was also invited to the National Population Council Launch for the year on the role of men in women sexual and

reproductive life. We read out our solidarity message in support of the theme and the work of Population Council.

Replacement of RUWA: Following consultations on the RUWA impasse, the management of ISODEC decided to drop the LNGO on the ARHP. The management of ISODEC further decided that the new partner be selected from the same district RUWA was operating in. Having received applications, the necessary background checks and assessments were done leading to the selection of a 12<sup>th</sup> LNGO partner: Navrongo Women's Health and Development.

### **2.3 Launch/continue right to water**

Steps have been taken to revive the coalition against the privatisation of water with two meetings to prepare for general assembly

- In April a press conference was organised to raise questions about the implementation of the management contract.
- A general meeting was convened in May to reorganise the campaign

## **3.0 Economic Justice**

### **Outcome 3:**

Civil society is mobilised to demand transparency and accountability from governments, companies involved in extractives industries, especially operationalising the EITI and PWYP campaign.

**3.1 Promoting Transparency in the Extractive Sector:** Following a series of community mobilization durbars organized in the four mining enclaves of Ghana; and a strategic planning meeting. The challenge over the period was to organize the citizenry of the four major mining enclaves; incorporate them into the PWYP campaign; and deepen their understanding of the essence of the EITI initiative, and the role they ought to play to realize the laudable goals of the initiative. A team of communication / media experts were quickly assembled to develop a strategy paper for meeting the challenge. The team's draft document recommended an initial approach that relied heavily on interactive communication. The purpose was to create room for immediate feedback and to be able to provide immediate answers to the queries of community members. The suggested communication forms were: sensitization / training workshops, which blended into them, field trips aimed at providing insight into the social and environmental cost of mining, and therefore the need for all members of the community to be part of an initiative (EITI) that seeks to improve the development outcomes of mining. This initial approach was to be followed by public discussions (radio) around the EITI report.

Meanwhile, the Multi stakeholder Committee of EITI in Ghana was planning a national conference on EITI implementation in Ghana for January 15, 2007 and there was an urgent need to collate and firm-up civil society demands and expectations of the EITI process in Ghana. A 2-day community-based sensitization & training workshop was therefore planned and executed from 11 - 13 January 2007 at Oboasi, Ghana's oldest mining enclave (over 100 years), and home to Anglo-Gold Ashanti and several others. The Workshop was on the theme: Making Mineral Revenue Work for the Poor. It was attended by 60 participants drawn mainly from in and around the Oboasi Community, the PWYP-Ghana Steering Committee, and 4 regional focal persons of the Campaign. It was also attended by the Amansie West District Finance Officer, the Community Relations Officer of AngloGold Ashanti, and a representative of the President of the Adansi Traditional Council. Other participants were: a 6-member delegation from Mongolia, who were then in the country to learn from Ghana's civil society experience with the EITI. PWYP-Ghana also sponsored a 2-member delegation from Sierra Leone to the event as part of its networking and for the purpose of cross fertilization of ideas.

The workshop looked at the issues of Mining and Development, focusing on the legal and regulatory framework of the mining sector i.e. contracts, environmental impact assessment, social responsibility agreements etc. It also took an overview of the mining sector revenue streams and their disbursements.

Participants were then taken through the Principles, Criteria, and Validation Process of EITI; the Role of Civil Society in the EITI Process; the Monitoring Framework for Effective Engagement (Budgets / Revenue Tracking). Participants had the opportunity to discuss the EITI reporting templates, particularly the sub-national template and how to engage with it.

The workshop again, provided the opportunity to discuss and formulate a civil society response to Ghana's EITI Inception Report, which was then in its draft stage; as well as collate and firm-up a set of civil society demands on the Ghana process.

The National Multi stakeholder Conference on the Implementation of EITI in Ghana was organized on January 15, 2007. PWYP-Ghana sponsored 8 community members drawn from the four mining enclaves to the conference. It was a welcomed opportunity to state the PWYP-Ghana demands on EITI in Ghana, which were: to bring on board all other legitimate concerns not captured in the current framework, including other dimensions of transparency, such as contracts, policy formulation, regulatory regime, social and environmental costs and compensation, and also seek to bring on board other extractive sector activities.

The demands also included the call to pursue EITI within the context of a broader range of complementary reform initiatives including but not limited to:

- Reviewing the existing mining law to make it consistent with the transparency requirements of EITI.
- Formulating in the shortest possible time, a mining policy for the mineral sector.
- Anti-corruption legislation.
- Passing the Right to information bill.
- Providing civil liberty guarantees, especially for civil society activists.
- Legislating the initiative to make disclosures mandatory.

The Oboasi community-based workshop was replicated in the Western regional mining enclave - Tarkwa (February 22 – 24, 2007), and the Ahafo mining enclave - Sunyani (March 15 – 18, 2007). All the workshops were given good coverage in the local as well as national electronic and print media.

In general, discussions at the workshops centred on the relationship between mining companies and the communities in which they operate. In particular, issues of crop compensation, lack of transparency in the disbursement of mineral royalties from the Office of the Administrator of Stool Lands, environmental cost and compensation, livelihood insecurity, and human right abuses perpetrated by mining companies, working in tandem with state security agencies were the most nagging concerns.

On January 18, 2007 GTZ hosted a meeting between World Bank Officials, including the Bank's EITI consultant Sefton Darby, and PWYP-Ghana. The meeting was at the instance of the Bank and had the purpose of obtaining a feedback from the civil society mobilization events and workshops as well as sharing the civil society perspective on the EITI process so far. Discussions also focused on constraints civil society was facing with the EITI process and the management of the mining sector in general.

PWYP-Ghana seized the opportunity to re-affirm its demands on the process, as well as other concerns of the communities which fall outside the remit of EITI.

The first Ghana EITI report was completed in February. As part of the strategy to mobilize around the report, PWYP-Ghana commissioned an expert in the U.K. to undertake a technical review of the report, which would subsequently be referred to as the Murphy Critique. Following the submission of the Murphy Critique, a civil society technical roundtable was organized to discuss the first Ghana EITI report, with the Murphy Critique serving as a reference document. The roundtable drew participation from the membership of the PWYP-Ghana coalition, private legal practitioners, geologists from academia, representatives of gender and faith-based organizations. It provided the platform for formulating a civil society response to the first Ghana report, which was submitted at a national stakeholder workshop on the report organized on April 3, 2007.

PWYP-Ghana has, as part of its strategy to generate public discourse on EITI and to mobilize public support for the initiative, granted several interviews to both the print and electronic media and taken part in radio discussions on Shaft FM (Oboasi). The cumulative outcome of our intervention has been an increased awareness and a galvanized community support for EITI implementation in Ghana. PWYP-Ghana has developed a draft monitoring framework for community-based training, which is soon to be deployed.

**Outcome 4:**

Citizens in West Africa are mobilized to resist EPAs and work towards trade justice and regional integration as alternatives to free trade and economic globalisation

#### **4.1 Trade Justice Campaign**

The GTLC convened and led by ISODEC undertook the following activities: Africa People's forum on EPA's was organised in the Upper East region for tomato farmers in collaboration with African Initiatives and Community Self Reliance Centre, to do a Press conference in Bolgatanga. Organised ECOWAS subregional week in Navrongo with participation of farmers and CSO from Burkina Held two alliance building international conferences in Ghana and Burkina on modalities for a collaborative campaign

Day of the African Child: As part of an annual event, the Day of the African Child was marked as part of activities to highlight the impact of non-favourable trade and agriculture policies on farmer production and industry and its influence on the livelihood of the African Child. Two years ago, trees were planted at the Ministries of Trade and Industry, Women and Children, UNICEF, and the Nigerian Embassy to serve as reminders as to their role in ensuring that livelihoods of Children are secured. This year visits were paid to these Ministries to evaluate what policies have been put in place to deal with the situation of low productivity and deindustrialisation, especially in the agro industry. A seminar was also organised in Tema to mark the day.

Make Trade Fair Alliance Building campaign: Two conferences have been held in Ghana and Burkina Faso with the objective of building an alliance between farmers, producers and civil society of both countries to campaign on issues that would bring about a faster and better regional integration. Modalities were developed for collaboration on joint activities.

Africa Trade Network Peoples Forum: A two day seminar was in Accra, at the Ghana Institute of Journalism, with the participating of citizens from about 20 African countries. The seminar was organised on the eve of the Africa Union meeting. It was co-sponsored and co-organised by the ATN and Ghana Trade and livelihoods Coalition. The seminar centered on the ongoing EPA negotiations and the critical role the African civil society in pushing for an EPA that consider the development aspirations of the ACP countries.

Press Conference by the Upper East Tomato farmers: Upper East tomato farmers were organised and supported to do a press conference in Bolgatanga to raise concerns on their plight and the role of Government and the refurbished tomato factory now called, The Northern star.

## **5.0 Policy Support**

### **Outcome 5:**

A network of activists in budgets, economic justice, debt cancellation and tax justice is built in West Africa to mobilise and build a critical mass of citizens for action to influence these events

**5.1** The half year of 2007 saw CBA working on economic literacy, research, training and advocacy. CBA participated in local and international workshops, seminars and conferences in which issues bordering right based advocacy was pushed forth. The Centre would continue to collaborate with other partners working on rights based advocacy to ensure that the objectives of the right based advocacy are achieved.

Open letter to the President: After successfully organizing budget fora on the 2007 Budget Statement in all the regions, the Centre for Budget Advocacy collated all the reports from the regions and put it together as an open letter to the president of the country. The report, which brought the views of individuals and organizations at the grassroots level on the budget, considered issues like livelihoods, gender, human rights among others. This document was widely circulated to all the media houses for publication.

The budget forums organized in Tamale, Bolga, Wa and Sunyani was well attended by some stakeholders and civil society members invited. The total participants were about 75, 120, 75 and 75 respectively. This included heads of department, students, political parties, GNAT, NGOs and TUC. In each region, the speakers were present and effectively made their presentations. There was high level of participation during the open forum. Participants called for more of such programmes and even wanted to know how such information gathered is used.

Inputs into the National Budget: Following the publications in the press by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFEP) requesting individuals and organizations to input into the 2008 national budget, the Centre prepared an elaborate input into the budget. The input considered issues on the Rights Based Advocacy that the organization is working on. Issues on education, health, water, gender among others were highlighted for government action.

Research: The CBA's study for the Alliance for Poverty Eradication (ALPE) on "Analyzing the Budget from a Gender Perspective (2001 – 2005)" has been published by ALPE. The report was widely circulated among policy makers, legislators, civil society organization, among others. Some members of parliament who received the document wrote to thank the organization for its good work and promised to work on the issues raised in the document. The CBA also started a study on Aid Effectiveness in Ghana as a part of a comparative study involving four countries. The first draft of the study was prepared within the period under review. The study is in collaboration with the African Monitor based in South Africa. The Centre also inputted and analyzed data collected by the Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition (GNECC) on the tracking of education expenditure, mainly the capitation grant.

Civil Society Capacity Building: As part of efforts to build capacity of other civil society organizations in the country, the CBA undertook the second batch of training for the Women in Law and Development (WiLDAF) in January. This second workshop covered different group of participants on budgets and budget related policies. The Centre also carried out the second training for the Alliance for Poverty Eradication (ALPE) in March in the Brong Ahafo Region (Sunyani), Upper East and Upper West region of the country.

## 5.2 THE DGPO PROJECT:

The DGPO project is about enhancing democratic accountability and parliamentary oversight of the International Financial Institutions including regional development banks. The project seeks to establish a global network of leading civil society organizations, including academic centres, which will work with parliamentary groups to develop strategies for ensuring that the legislative structure maintains its oversight responsibility over loans and other forms of development assistance contracted by the executive arm. Specifically, the project aims at:

- Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations to engage national parliaments on IFIs and to enhance the oversight capacity of members of parliament through skills training and dialogue.
- Enhancing accountability mechanisms by developing structures and tools that support parliamentarians in carrying out their oversight role of the IFIs, by strengthening networking and information exchange among civil society organizations, and between civil society organizations on one hand and parliamentarians on the other.
- Convening and helping to coordinate a wide range of civil society organizations to work with parliamentary groups and academic centres in the Global South and North, to strengthen oversight over the IFIs.

ISODEC attended the last strategising session for the phase 2 of the project at Action Aid International (USA) office in Washington DC in April 2007.

A number of briefs have been produced and circulated to parliament on education, participation of CSOs in economic policy making, trade/EPAs and education,

Apart from our ongoing parliamentary support programme for parliament, we now have a Democratic Governance and Parliamentary Oversight (DGPO) project aimed to enhance the capacity of the legislature to exercise their oversight functions over the executive. This piece of work was presented in Washington DC last month, among other countries like India, Brazil and Indonesia. We have subsequently been selected to host the international secretariat for the initiative starting the June 2007.

## 5.3 Tax Justice Campaign

ISODEC attended the Africa launch meeting in Nairobi, as part of the social summit with the view to launching the West African one in July/August should funding allow

### Outcome 6:

Appropriate tools and methods are available for monitoring poverty and inequality including poverty reduction strategies and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

## 6.1 Build and maintain a database on development

A geographic information system (GIS) for extractive is being built to map all natural resources, especially gold and diamonds and companies holding concessions and their payments of revenues to governments and communities. So far maps have been acquired, digitised, geo-referenced for Ghana and Sierra Leone. A mining concession map has been completed for Ghana awaiting data from the independent audit to complete revenue flows entries.

A set of tools for monitoring mining revenue utilisation in mining communities have been developed to support the Ghana PWYP Campaign.

## 2. Public image

**How has the credibility and legitimacy of RAOs changed in the eyes of GoG and the Ghana public? What is your interpretation? Is there a reference to this evidence of change?**

The credibility of ISODEC is still rated high in our opinion- this is evident by the diverse invitations for consultation we receive from government, agencies, donors and civil society and of late the private sector even in areas where our opinions are considered very critical. For example Newmont has formally invited ISODEC to facilitate a workshop for its management, staff and community members of its Akyem Mine on the EITI. The organisations legitimacy is rooted in its connectedness with the communities, youth, women /children and vulnerable groups we represent. We intend to remain focus and be guided in our research and analysis by our vision and mission to work with, for and on behalf of the powerless and excluded.

## 3. Collaboration, coalitions and networking

**Using the format below, list the most important organisations you collaborated with over the period, under each of the sectors listed below. For each organisation, give an indication of the issues or themes you worked on, its status and the outcomes.**

	Organisation or coalition	Policy issue / theme / nature Starting / ongoing / ending	Outcome
<b>Government</b> - executive - judiciary - legislature	Apart from our ongoing parliamentary support programme for parliament, we now have a Democratic Governance and Parliamentary Oversight (DGPO) project aimed to enhance the capacity of the legislature to exercise their oversight functions over the executive. This piece of work was presented in Washington DC last month, among other countries like India. ISODEC has subsequently been selected to host the international secretariat for the initiative starting June 2007. Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)	Trade, Aid and Debt  Parliament and the International Financial Institutions(IFIs)  Extractive Sector	<i>Provide periodic briefs to Parliament</i>  A number of briefs have been produced and circulated to parliament on education, participation of CSOs in economic policy making, trade/EPAs, education, etc Report on GDPO consultative meeting First Ghana EITI report
<b>Coalition, network</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alliance for Poverty Eradication (ALPE)</li> <li>▪ National Campaign Against the Privatization of Water(NCAP)</li> <li>▪ Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition (GNECC)</li> <li>▪ Northern Network for Education Development(NNED)</li> <li>▪ Alliance for Reproductive Health Rights(ARHRs)</li> <li>▪ Ghana Publish What You Pay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GPRS 2 and Budget Monitoring</li> <li>▪ Right to Water</li> <li>▪ Right to free quality Basic Education</li> <li>▪ Right to Health</li> <li>▪ Promoting Transparency and efficient utilisation of extractive sector resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Report on “Analyzing the Budget from a Gender Perspective (2001 – 2005)”</li> <li>▪ The first draft report on Aid Effectiveness in Ghana as a part of a comparative study involving four countries.</li> <li>▪ Analyzed data collected by the Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition (GNECC) on the</li> </ul>

	Coalition(G- PWYP) ▪ Ghana Trade and Livelihoods Coalitions(GTLC)		▪ Trade Justice	tracking of education expenditure, mainly the capitation grant. ▪ Education Agenda ▪ Enhance trade justice campaign
<b>RAO, NGO, I-NGO</b>	TWN, ABANTU, IDEG		GPRS Review Committee hosted by IDEG Extractives (National Mining Coalition) hosted by TWN	▪ Review of the Ghana Mining law
<b>Donor institution</b>	UNDP, Oxfam Novib, Christian aid, Oxfam Gb, Dutch Embassy		Right Based Advocacy	Strengthening citizens voice and participation in West Africa Improved access and participation to reproductive health rights
<b>CBO/DA (please indicate district)</b>	TUMAKAVI	Zabzugu-Tatale	Reproductive Health	Improved access and participation of women and youth to reproductive health services
<b>Other</b>	PENORUDAS	East Gonja	Reproductive Health	Improved access and participation of women and youth to reproductive health services
	EPCC	Saboaba-Chereponi	Reproductive Health	- same-
	CFRHP	West Mamprusi	Reproductive Health, Education	Improved access and participation of women and youth to reproductive health services and education
	PRIDE	Bongo	Reproductive Health, Education	-same-
	ZOVFA	Bawku East	Reproductive Health Education	-same-
	PAPADEV	Bole	Reproductive Health	Improved access and participation of women and youth to reproductive health services
	NWHD	Kassena-Nankana	Reproductive Health	-same-
	BILFACU	East Mamprusi	Reproductive Health	-same-
	YARO (JSS)	Tamale Municipal	Reproductive Health	-same-
	IRUDEC	Bolgatanga Municipal	Reproductive Health	-same-
	TIDA	Nanumba	Reproductive Health	-same-
	District Assembly	Asante-Akim-south	Girl child Education	Improved access and participation education
	District	Sekyere-East	Girl child Education	-same-

	Assembly			
	District Assembly	Jama	Girl child Education	-same-
	District Assembly	Ahafo- Ano-North	Girl child Education	-same-
	District Assembly	Kenyasi	Girl child Education and Extractives	Improves access and participation of girls in education Enhance effectiveness and transparency in utilisation of mining revenue

#### 4. Outputs on research and advocacy products and/or services delivered

List the outputs as you have presented in the Workplan submitted to G-RAP.

Make sure that you:

- Indicate estimated levels of completion per output
- Indicate target groups that used / received the output delivered
- Attach copy of concept paper per output
- Attach copy of product output

Outcomes that potentially will contribute to policy and practice changes	Progress: Jan- June 2007	Beneficiary Target Groups
In each of the focal countries, the capacity of Youth, Women's groups and associations, Faith-based organisations and local authorities would be enhanced to influence and demand economic justice, especially through the framework of the economic, social and cultural rights framework of the United Nations;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 focal NGOs have been identified in Niger, Mali, Sierra Leone and Senegal</li> <li>▪ Draft MOUs have been developed for all four new Partners</li> <li>▪ A regional meeting has been scheduled for August 2007 in Accra to agree on a work programme for 2007</li> </ul>	Civil society groups in selected countries: Niger, Mali, Senegal and Sierra Leone
A campaign is catalysed to keep essential services (public goods) out of the discipline of GATs and EPAs and the principal role of the state in providing these goods is restored in, at least, the focal countries in West Africa;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enhanced the social mobilisation efforts of education, health and water campaigns</li> <li>▪ Initiated discussion on essential services platform with the major networks and groups</li> </ul>	Members of the GNECC, ARHRs and NCAP
Civil society is mobilised to demand transparency and accountability from governments, companies involved in extractives industries, especially operationalising the EITI and PWYP campaign;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sensitization and mobilisation workshops on EITI held in all four mining enclaves</li> <li>▪ The 2004 aggregated EITI report has been published</li> <li>▪ Organised a civil society technical review of the report</li> <li>▪ Developed a set of tools for monitoring mining revenue utilisation in communities</li> <li>▪ A geographic information system (GIS) for extractive is being built to map all natural resources, especially gold and diamonds and companies holding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mining communities</li> <li>▪ CBOS and faith based groups</li> <li>▪ Government agencies, ministry of mines and energy, parliament</li> <li>▪ Ghana EITI</li> <li>▪ Ghana PWYP Coalition</li> </ul>

	concessions and their payments of revenues to governments and communities.	
Citizens in West Africa are mobilized to resist EPAs and work towards trade justice and regional integration as alternatives to free trade and economic globalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organised a series of national and international activities aimed at informing the public and putting pressure of government to resist the EPAs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members of the trade and livelihoods coalition</li> <li>▪ Peasant Farmers, women groups, the media in Ghana and Burkina Faso</li> </ul>
A network of activists in budgets, economic justice, debt cancellation and tax justice is built in West Africa to mobilise and build a critical mass of citizens for action to influence these events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regional public for a on the 2007 budget</li> <li>▪ Submitted input into the 2008 budget</li> <li>▪ Civil society capacity building on budgets: ALPE and WILDAF</li> <li>▪ The CBA's study for the Alliance for Poverty Eradication (ALPE) on "Analyzing the Budget from a Gender Perspective (2001 – 2005)" has been published by ALPE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Public Policy Makers, Parliament, citizens emphasis on ordinary citizens to promote economic literacy</li> <li>▪ CS, ALPE and WILDAF</li> </ul>
Appropriate tools and methods are available for monitoring poverty and inequality including poverty reduction strategies and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developed a set of tools for monitoring mining revenue utilisation in communities</li> <li>▪ A geographic information system (GIS) for extractive is being built to map all natural resources, especially gold and diamonds and companies holding concessions and their payments of revenues to governments and communities.</li> <li>▪ So far maps have been acquired, digitised, geo-referenced for Ghana and Sierra Leone. A mining concession map has been completed for Ghana awaiting data from the independent audit to complete revenue flows entries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NGOs, Government Agencies, District Assemblies</li> <li>▪ GNECC, ALPE, ARHRs and PWYP</li> <li>▪ Mining communities</li> <li>▪ CBOS and faith based groups</li> <li>▪ Government agencies, ministry of mines and energy, parliament</li> <li>▪ Ghana EITI</li> </ul>

### 5. Organisation: evidence of significant progress / change

What are major changes in the organisation's circumstances that are likely to have impacted your outputs over the period?

- **Organisational structure / board / management team**
- **Strategy / planning / decision making / knowledge management**
- **Human resource issues**
- **Marketing / communication / public relations**

Within the period six new staff were hired and eight paid off as part of the restructuring exercise. The office premise was also moved from Laterbiokoshie to Kokomlemlle. Kokomlemlle is central for our partners, is more accessible with a relatively better supply of utilities and other suppliers. The new address of ISODEC is as follows:

C842/4, Wawa Street  
P.O.Box MP 2989, Mamprobi-Accra  
Phone-233-21-254918/21  
Fax-233-21-253613

The final evaluation of the RBA 11 programme was conducted in May-June 2007. The process was led by two external evaluators. The methodology included an innovative peer review sessions. The final report has been submitted to the board for review. The findings will feed into the second half of the RBA 11.

## **6. Grant and report related issues**

### **6.1 What issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management?**

We extend our deep appreciation to the Funders Committee and the Programme Management Team for the increase of our annual grant from \$125,000 to \$180,000 with effect from July 2007. Definitely the increase will go a long way in promoting our programmes.

### **6.2 What parts of the report are confidential or cannot be shared without prior consent?**

No part of the report is confidential. It can be shared without prior consent.